

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks and discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 and 10 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claim 1 is amended and Claim 9 is cancelled. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 3-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,223,190 to Aihara et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,035,323 to Narayan et al.; and Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Aihara and Narayan and further in view of 6,930,709 to Creamer et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

None of the applied art teaches, discloses or suggests a unit which, each time a pick-up image is linked to an HTML document, determines as to whether or not there is a sound relation file attached to the picked-up image and a unit which, if there is any sound relation file, displays and icon indicating the existence of the sound relation file attached to the picked-up image linked to the HTML document and a unit which links the sound relation file to the display icon, as claimed in Claim 1.

In rejecting the claim features recited above, the Office Action asserted that Aihara disclosed these features. Applicants respectfully disagree. Specifically, Aihara discloses that the camera 110 supports the actions of preparing to capture an image through the use of an LCD screen 402 alone or the status LCD 406 with the viewfinder. In review mode, camera 110 allows editing, sorting images, printing and transferring images. In play mode, the camera 110 allows the user to view screen-sized images in the LCD screen 402 in the orientation that the image was captured. Play mode also allows the user to hear recorded sound associated with a displayed image and to play back sequential groupings of images

which may comprise time lapse, slide show and burst images. The user can switch between capture, review and play modes, using the mode dial 420.

In accordance with the features of the claimed invention discussed above, each time a picked-up image is linked to an HTML document, it is determined whether or not any relation file is attached to the picked-up image. Thus, in the case where there is a sound relation file, an icon is displayed, which indicates that there is a sound relation file attached to the picked-up image that is linked to an HTML document. As shown in Figures 4 and 5 of the present application, in the case when the linked still image is linked by a sound file, an icon is displayed showing that there is a sound relation file attached. As such, in accordance with exemplary embodiments, it becomes possible to link sound relation files corresponding to a picked-up image to an HTML document. The applied art does not disclose the features of the claimed invention discussed above, and therefore, cannot provide at least the advantages discussed above.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of independent Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2-8 and 10, be withdrawn.

Consequently, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-8 and 10 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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